

Briefing Paper for Projects in Idaho Roadless Areas

Name of Project: Windy – Shingle CE

Forest/District: Nez Perce – Clearwater National Forest / Salmon River Ranger District

Date: 11/15/2016

Roadless Area: Salmon Face (#855) – 9,200 acres

Management Theme: Backcountry Restoration

Key Contact: Jeremy Harris 208-983-4047 / jrharris02@fs.fed.us

Proposed Action:

- 346 acres of Regeneration Harvest in Timber Units 1,3,6, and 8.
- Fuel treatments associated with harvest activity include under burning, mechanical and hand piling of activity generated fuels.
- These acres comprise 0.35% of the total IRA
- These acres are included within the ID County Wildland-Urban Interface Wildfire Mitigation Plan otherwise known as WUI.

Purpose and Need:

- Reduce the risk or extent of, or increase resilience to, insect or disease infestation
- Reduce wildfire risk to local communities and surrounding federal lands
- Move existing stand conditions toward more seral vegetation.

Road construction/Reconstruction

Proposed: No

Timber cutting, sale or removal

Proposed: Yes

294.24 Timber cutting, sale, or removal in Idaho Roadless Areas.

(c) Backcountry/Restoration. (1) The cutting, sale, or removal of timber is permissible in Idaho Roadless Areas designated as Backcountry/Restoration only:

(i) To reduce hazardous fuel conditions within the community protection zone if in the responsible officials judgement the project generally retains large trees as appropriate for the forest type and is consistent with land management plan components as provided for in 294.28(d);

(iv) To maintain or restore the characteristic of ecosystem composition, structure, and processes;

(v) To reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildland fire effects.

These provisions apply to reduce fuel conditions within WUI, maintain stands toward seral species and to reduce wildland fire effects.

These conditions are met by striving to leave healthy, dominant, larger diameter, fire resistant species across the landscape. Preferred tree species for retention will be large diameter healthy western larch, ponderosa pine, and douglas fir where no root disease exists. Opening the canopy will encourage the regeneration of early fire resistant fire adapted species.

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Discretionary minerals

Proposed: No

Responsible official: Cheryl Probert

Other information: Scoping will begin January 2017 along with meeting landowners adjacent to road 517 within Papoose drainage. ID County Commissioners have been briefed of the project details by Line Officer.